

REMARKS

The aforementioned Office Action stated that claims 1-10, 12-17, 34 and 36-40 were allowable, and these claims have been left unchanged. The Office Action rejected claims 11, 41, 42, 51 and 52, and objected to claims 43-50 as dependent upon a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants do not agree with the rejections of claims 11, 41, 42, 51 and 52 and reserve the right to file divisional and/or continuation applications directed to the subject matter of these claims. However, in order to secure allowance of this application, claims 11 and 51 have been cancelled. Claim 41 has been amended to incorporate therein the subject matter of former claim 43; hence, claim 41 is now in effect former claim 43 rewritten in independent form, and is allowable for the reasons indicated in the Office Action in relation to claim 43. Claim 43 has been cancelled as redundant over amended claim 41, and consequential amendments have been made in claims 44-46. Since claims 42 and 52 depend from amended claim 41 they are allowable for the reasons indicated in the Office Action in relation to claim 43. Accordingly, all claims remaining in this application are allowable for the reasons indicated in the Office Action.

Reconsideration and allowance of all claims now present in this application is respectfully requested.

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This Amendment reduced the total number of claims present in this application and does not change the number of independent claims. Accordingly, no additional claim fees are required by this Amendment. However, since the prescribed period for responding to the Office Action expired on November 22, 2007, a Petition for a three-month extension of this period is filed herewith.

Respectfully submitted
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